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The Role of Indian Government and Universities in Lifelong Learning

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Introduction:

Education is a backbone of each and every nation. Without education, individual and general development is not possible. Education is a need of each and every person. Only formal education can't fulfil all our demands. Hence formal and non-formal education is equally important. The combination of both plays a vital role for satisfying the professional and educational needs of the people. Learning to live and living to learn are the two sides of one coin. There are some limitations to the traditional education system so lifelong learning is a need of time.

Our formal education had the limitations of school, time, hall, age, etc. but lifelong learning is for all, there are no limitations. All the Indian education commissions have accepted the importance of lifelong learning time to time. Lifelong learning proposes the importance of national and international literacy for the youth, house wives, agricultural and industrial workers. Skill development programme produce the manpower resources of the kind and the number required by the society.

The role of the Indian Lifelong Learning is increased in several social and economical factors. Knowledge based society is growing in India. Expansion of information is growing rapidly through Information Communication Technology and globalisation. Skill oriented jobs are available in the Indian industry. So, workforce keeps on learning and updating their skills to be globally competitive.

The process of any country is depending upon the use of new technology in industry. So, the adoption of new technology is an important factor. 85% Indian workforce has involved in unorganized sector, they need regular upgrading of skills to compete the globalisation. Training the labours with proper skills implies the need for creating a variety of learning and acquiring the skills.

In this process Indian university have to play an important role.

Status of Lifelong Learning in India:

It is a right of each and every Indian to gain the knowledge and develop their quality of life, attitude and values. ICT based equipment's are essential for their academic achievement. There is a need to minimize the drop out rate in schools & colleges and concentrate on adult literacy and available the chance of informal learning to each and every child in country. Indian government must follow the new demands of the society and also new trends and the new techniques, which are essential for the development of the people and country, for that education should be arranged ecologically. Arrangement of vocational education for rural people is important for Indian rural development then, there will be equal development in the society.

Indian society needs the financial assistance to meet the community needs. Unless we fulfil the community needs, we can't achieve the target of progress. It is a duty of the government to provide the formal and informal education to children in the country. Creating reconciliation among the school advisors, counsellors and employs. There is a need to integrate the values of sustainable development into all aspects of Lifelong learning. Developing educational infrastructure, making co-ordination between families and trainers, planning for future, catering to increase cultural, linguistic and religious diversity and addressing the needs of disadvantaged and minority groups to ensure equitable access should be the final aim of the government.

For achieving all these targets, strong commitment, devotion, determination and dedication is essential. All components should be cared by the Indian government and need to allocate sufficient resources to all the sectors of the education. Government should have to work innovatively by increasing the available resources which would be convenient for regional, national and international development of the education. Therefore, the students would be benefited from lifelong learning; those who with physical disabilities, women who were not allowed to enrolls in educational institutions open only to men, people who had their duties during normal school hours, and those who lived in remote regions where schools did not exist. Learning should be flexible and available at different times and in different places. Learning should have to cross the sectors and promote learning beyond traditional schooling and throughout adult life. Lifelong learning policies tends to promote participation in learning for its own sake rather than as a means of specific end. The goal of participation in learning thus appears to be more significant than the reason why. Learning to live together and with others peacefully resolving conflict, discovering other people and their cultures, fostering community capability individual competence and capacity, economic resilience and social inclusion is the need of time. Lifelong learning is concept not only related to the education but also related to the development of human potential through a continuously supportive process.

The role and importance of lifelong learning in India have increased in present situation due

to so many changes in each and every sector of the life. Fast spread of information and technology is changing the face of our country. Knowledge based economy is the one of the reasons for the change. Any type of learning gives the weightage to empower the knowledge. Practical and theoretical knowledge is equally important in the process of development. Only 5% workforce is certified by the institutions. Therefore, system should have to involve deeply in this matter. Increasing the percentage of higher education should be the main target of the government. If our labours and youths would be trained with knowledge and skills, they will be the high power not only for our country but whole world. If they remained illiterate and unskilled, there will be the violence and terrorism in the future would choke off the potential of even the minority that does manage to get a decent education. Family is a source of informal system for imparting the family values for life & living, the formal education system is nurturing to the students through the school and college education. Creation of human resource is the need of today's education system which not only creates a subject expert but a human resource, which can use the knowledge for the well being of the society. Education should be a means to an end; it should be enriching and empowering process. Not an end in itself.

Life skills are related to the physical and psychological human development, which can help people to make informed decisions and communicate effectively, together with self-management skills that may help an individual to lead a healthy and prosperous life. It helps in the development of social competence and problem-solving skills, which in turn help to the children and youths to create their own identity. However, without these attributes, they often fail to hold on their jobs. The syllabus which should be full with life skills curriculum approach blends academic, daily living, personal, social and occupational skills into integrated lessons designed to help students learn to work independently in society. Government plays an important role in equipping the institutions to adapt the challenges and changes and learn new skills in accordance with the new demands of work. In other words, Indian government has to prepare the students to be lifelong learners. Hence all the states should shoulder the responsibility of providing learning opportunities to the students. It is essential, that government and specially universities should prepare themselves to meet the challenges of globalisation.

The government should have to enhance student employability skills through the university education system of learning. The possibilities of strengthening the non-formal stream of education for catering to the needs of the unreached should also be taken into consideration. The government should have to integrate formal and non-formal education through the universities by opening their doors to adult learners, for lifelong learning programmes and by making the university and adult learner friendly institution.

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